

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 11 (cancelled)

12. (amended) A method for converting a plurality of ~~power lines~~ powerlines in at least a building structure into a communication network for a plurality of users, the method comprising:

coupling an apparatus for communicating between a data source and at least one of a plurality of users through a ~~power line~~ powerline network, the apparatus comprising:

a datasource connection, the datasource connection coupled to a data source;

a powerline device coupled to the datasource, the powerline device being adapted to receive and transmit information in a first format from the datasource and adapted to receive and transmit information in a second format;

a virtual local area network device including a first input/output port and a plurality of second input/output ports, each of the second input/output ports numbered from 1 through N, where N is an integer greater than 1;

a plurality of modem devices coupled to the virtual local area network device, the plurality of modem devices numbered from 1 through N, each of the plurality of modem devices being coupled respectively to one of the plurality of second input/output ports, each of the plurality of modem devices also being coupled to one of a plurality of ~~power lines~~ powerlines numbered from 1 through N, each of the ~~power lines~~ powerlines being capable of communicating information to and from the data source;

allowing at least one of the users to communicate to the data source through one of the plurality of ~~power lines~~ powerlines; and

denying access to at least one of the users from communicating to the data source through one of the plurality of ~~power-lines~~ powerlines;

wherein the allowing at least one of the users comprises receiving a user code from an unauthorized user coupled to the powerline network; processing the user code; and allowing access to the unauthorized user, the unauthorized user that is allowed to use the powerline network being an authorized user.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the building structure is an office building.

14. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the building structure is a residential home.

15. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the building structure is a multi-tenant building.

16. (cancelled)

17. (amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the denying access of at least one of the users comprises receiving a user code from an unauthorized user coupled to the ~~power-line~~ powerline network; processing the user code; and denying access to the unauthorized user, the unauthorized user that is denied to use the-powerline network being maintained as the unauthorized user.

18 - 32. (cancelled)

33. (original) Apparatus for powerline communications comprising:
a face plate structure including a first side and a second side, the first side including an outlet for data communications and a power outlet for AC power;
a housing coupled to the backside of the face plate structure;
a DC power supply coupled to and within the housing;

a network device including a first port and a second port, the network device being coupled to and within the housing, the network device being coupled to the DC power supply;

a powerline device including a first powerline port and a second powerline port, the powerline device being coupled to and within the housing, the powerline device being coupled to the DC power supply, the first powerline port being coupled to the second port of the network device;

a coupler coupled to the second powerline port and coupled to the outlet for data communications, the coupler being coupled to and within the housing; and

an AC connector coupled to the housing and coupled to the DC power supply, the AC connector being coupled to the first port of the network device.

34. (original) Apparatus of claim 33 wherein the face plate structure and housing have a thickness of less than four inches and a width of less than three inches and a height of less than five inches.

35. (original) Apparatus of claim 33 wherein the second port couples to an MII bus, the MII bus interfaces between the second port and the first powerline port.

36. (original) Apparatus of claim 33 wherein the housing is made of a plastic material.

37. (original) Apparatus of claim 33 wherein the housing is removable.

38. (original) Apparatus of claim 33 further comprising an analog front end module coupled to the coupler, the analog front end module being disposed between the coupler and the powerline device.

39. (original) Apparatus of claim 33 wherein the outlet is a CAT 5 connector device.

40. (original) Apparatus for powerline communications comprising:

a removable network jack structure including an outlet for data communications;
a housing coupled to the network jack structure;
a DC power supply coupled to and within the housing;
a network device including a first port and a second port, the network device being coupled to and within the housing, the network device being coupled to the DC power supply;
a powerline device including a first powerline port and a second powerline port, the powerline device being coupled to and within the housing, the powerline device being coupled to the DC power supply, the first powerline port being coupled to the second port of the network device;
a coupler coupled to the second powerline port and coupled to the outlet for data communications, the coupler being coupled to and within the housing; and
an AC connector coupled to the housing and coupled to the DC power supply, the AC connector being coupled to the first port of the network device.

41. (original) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein the AC connector is operably coupled to the housing through a pivoting device, the AC connector being adapted to protrude from the housing to be insertable into an AC wall outlet in a first position and the AC connector being adapted to fold toward the housing about the pivoting device in a second position.

42. (original) Apparatus of claim 40 wherein the AC connector is maintained within a region of the housing in the second position.

43. (New) A method for converting a plurality of powerlines in at least a building structure into a communication network for a plurality of users, the method comprising:
coupling an apparatus for communicating between a data source and at least one of a plurality of users through a powerline network, the apparatus comprising:
a datasource connection, the datasource connection coupled to a data source;

a powerline device coupled to the datasource, the powerline device being adapted to receive and transmit information in a first format from the datasource and adapted to receive and transmit information in a second format;

a virtual local area network device including a first input/output port and a plurality of second input/output ports, each of the second input/output ports numbered from 1 through N, where N is an integer greater than 1;

a plurality of modem devices coupled to the virtual local area network device, the plurality of modem devices numbered from 1 through N, each of the plurality of modem devices being coupled respectively to one of the plurality of second input/output ports, each of the plurality of modem devices also being coupled to one of a plurality of powerlines numbered from 1 through N, each of the powerlines being capable of communicating information to and from the data source;

allowing at least one of the users to communicate to the data source through one of the plurality of powerlines;

denying access to at least one of the users from communicating to the data source through one of the plurality of powerlines; and

wherein the denying access of at least one of the users comprises receiving a user code from an unauthorized user coupled to the powerline network; processing the user code; and denying access to the unauthorized user, the unauthorized user that is denied to use the powerline network being maintained as the unauthorized user.

44. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the building structure is an office building.

45. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the building structure is a residential home.

46. (New) The method of claim 43 wherein the building structure is a multi-tenant building.

Appl. No. 10/712,748
Amdt. dated May 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of 04/20/2006

PATENT

47. (Cancelled)